ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

North River Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Oakman Church, Walker County,

September 22d, 23d and 24th, 1894.

OFFICERS:

W. B. APPLING, MODERATOR,.....Jasper, Ala.

J. S. WATTS. CLERK AND TREAS.....Oakman, Ala.

The Next Session to be held with Samaria Church, 3 miles east of Jasper, commencing on Saturday, before the fourth Sunday in September, 1895.

EAGLE PRINT. Jasper. Alabama.

Order of Business.

1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Read Constitution, Articles of Faith, and Rules of Decorum.
3. Presentation of Letters from the Churches.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Invite visiting ministers not delegates to seats.
7. Receive Correspondence.
8. Return Correspondence.
9. Appointment of Special Committees:
    - (1) On Religious Exercises.
    - (2) On Documents and Requests.
    - (3) On Nominations.
    - (4) On Finance.
10. Call for Report of Standing Committees:
    - (1) On Sunday Schools.
    - (2) On Temperance.
    - (3) On State Missions.
    - (4) On Home Missions.
    - (5) On Foreign Missions.
    - (6) On Denominational Education.
    - (7) On Religious Literature.
    - (8) Orphan's Home.
    - (9) On Prayer and Prayer Meetings.
    - (10) On Aged and Infirm Ministers.
11. Report of Treasurer.
12. Appoint Treasurer.
13. Call for Report of Special Committee:
    - (1) On Documents and Requests.
    - (2) On Nomination.
    - (3) On Finance.
14. Call for Report of Executive Committee.
15. Appoint Standing Committees.
16. Miscellaneous Business.
17. Read Minutes, call Roll and Adjourn.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Sixtieth Annual Session of the North River Baptist Association convened with the Baptist Church at Oakman, Walker County, Ala., on Saturday, September 22nd, 1894.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. J. R. Sartain. Text: "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses." Joshua 1:3.

After preaching, a recess was taken until 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 p. m. the delegates reassembled in the house. After devotional exercises by J. W. Rogers, was called to order by the Moderator.

The reading of the Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum was dispensed with.

Presentation of letters.

Brethren H. B. Allen and J. W. Stewart were appointed to read the letters.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

Bethabara—N. H. Harbin.
Mt. Joy—H. G. Amerson, W. A. Kimbrell, R. A. Baker and L. H. Baker.
Bethel—O. G. Kilgore and G. W. Kilgore.
Oakman—S. W. Vice, J. S. Watts, E. S. Carden and H. B. Allen.
Liberty—James Hilton.
Pleasant Field—J. L. Leonard and W. P. Odom.
Bethlehem—Wm. McDuff and J. W. Popwell.
Samaria—D. H. Clifton, R. F. Sumner, T. H. Evans and J. W. Cain.
Zion—L. B. Harbin and E. D. Busbee.
Union Grove—W. W. Garrison and J. N. Cannon.
Townley—Clanton Manasco and David Keeton.
Providence—J. R Sartain, S. E. Walton and Robt. Courington.
Oregonia—R. L. Baker and J. G. Jones.
Bethpage—J. A. Dees.
Union—L. Williams, A. Crocker, J. M. Waldrop and J. N. Kell.
Mt. Zion—J. B. Crownover, George Patton and A. J. Hedwood.
Jasper—W. B. Appling, R. M. Hunter, J. W. Rogers, L. A. Morris, W. T. Walton, G. D. O'Rear, J. H. McGuire and J. M. Williams.
Pleasant Grove—Wm. Dutton, B. F. Thomas, W. F. Sides, J. B. Grace, W. T. Rutledge and J. E. Grace.
Mt. Carmel—J. T. Morris and J. A. Sumner,
New Prospect—J. P. Mooney.
Lebanon—A. Kilgore, J. T. Jones, Wm. Earnest and J. L. Jones.

The Association was permanently organized by the election by acclamation of W. B. Appling, Moderator, and J, S. Watts, Clerk.

Received petitionary letter and delegates from Parrish: J. J. Kirkpatrick and J. H. Stephenson.

Invited visiting ministers to seats, and the following-named brethren came forward and were received: J. W. Stewart of the Orphan's Home, and N. Dyre.

Received correspondence to-wit:
From Birmingham Association: J. H. Pool, J. R. Lloyd.

Returned correspondence.
To Tuskaloosa Association: W. T. Walton and L. A. Morris.
New River Association—W. A. Kimbrell.
Clear Creek Association—Jas. Hilton and J. R. Sartain.

The following committees were announced:

On Religious Exercises—Pastor and Deacons of Oakman church, W. F. Sides and S. E. Walton.

On Documents—L. A. Morris, L. B. Harbin and J. P. Mooney.

On Nominations—J. H. McGuire, D. H. Clifton and J. A. Sumner.

On Finance—G. D. O'Rear, R. F. Sumner and R. A. Baker.

On motion, the reading of the report on Sunday Schools was set for Sunday 9 a. m.

On motion the report on Temperance was set for Sunday 3 p. m.

On motion received the following-named brethren: W. A. Whittle, Vice-President Howard College, J. A. Glenn, State Evangelist and J. R. Loyd, Representative Alabama Baptist.

On montion all the reports on missions were read and discussed jointly by R. M. Hunter and others, the discussion not being ended was deferred till Monday.

Then adjourned till Sunday morning, 9 a. m. Preaching at night by W. A. Whittle.

SUNDAY MORNING.

At 9 a. m. met pursuant to adjournment. After devotional exercises by H. B. Allen was called to order.

Report on Sunday Schools read and after being discussed by J. H. McGuire and others was adopted.

On motion speeches on the above report was limited to ten minutes.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee on Sunday Schools report as follows: We are encouraged to note from the reading of the various letters to this session of our body that the Sunday School work is on the increase among the churches. As compared with former minutes the reports this year will show not only a greater number of Sunday Schools but a greater number of "evergreen" schools and a better average attendance. Many of the letters, we observe, insist upon and emphasize the fact that their schools are open every Sunday. As compared with former years, we are satisfied it will appear that more importance is attached to this grand and noble work among our churches, and a place of greater prominence is accorded it than ever before. This is truly encouraging though the work is yet in its swaddling clothes. Of the thousands of children which God has blessed us with, only the hundreds are in Sunday School. Nine out of ten are turned loose on Sundays to roam over the fields and forests in the country, and to infest the back streets and dark alleys and even worse places in our towns and villages, rather than be led to Sunday School by their parents and there taught the word of God. This brings us to consider the last thought that will be touched upon in this meagre report—which is—how to secure a full attendance of our children in Sunday School. Brethren there is but one way to do this, there is but one right plan, that is of course God's plan. One of the last commandments recorded by the spirit on this subject through the Great Law-Giver, Moses, not only for literal Israel but for all the true Israel of God. "And these words which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shall talk of them when thou sittest in thine house and when thou walkest by the way and when thou liest down and when thou risest up." Deut. 6: 6 and 7. The last command to Peter by our Savior on the lake shore at the early dawn when that heavenly repast was set before the disciples was, "feed my lambs." Then brethren, we see the duty rests both upon parents and preacher. As pastors and parents can we afford to ignore these commandments if we govern our house well? As. Dr. Whittle taught us to do so plainly and so forcibly last night, how can we leave off these last commandments concerning our children. We trust and pray the time will soon come when the churches will

be able to record through their letters to this body that the children of at least our membership are led each Sunday morning to the Sunday School to be there taught the statutes and command ments of the living God. And by the united efforts and co-operation of parents and pastor, we believe it is in the power of the Pastors of this Association to have in each of their respective churches a Sunday School actively at work by the next meeting of our Sunday School Convention, and we do most earnestly hope they will do so. We recommend the use of the Sunday School literature published at Nashville, Tenn., by the Southern Baptist Convention. This literature may be ordered through our State Colporter, J. B. Collier, Montgomery, Ala.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERIFF LACY, Chairman.

Adjourned for preaching.

At 11 a. m. a missionary sermon was preached by W. A. Whittle to a large and attentive congregation, after which a public collection was taken for missions amounting to $18.83. Preaching also at the Methodist church by J. W. Stewart. A collection also for missions, $10.65. Total collection $29.48.

On motion the hour of meeting was set for 2:30 p. m.

Adjourned for dinner.

EVENING SESSION.

At 2:30 p. m. met pursuant to adjournment. After devotional exercises by Jas. Hilton, was called to order. Report on temperance read and after being discussed by J. R. Sartain and others was adopted.

On motion speeches on the above report was limited to ten minutes.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on Temperance beg leave to report, That there are about $1,300,000,000 spent each year for intoxicating drinks, dividing this among 13,000,000 families is $100 to each family. Does the drinker pay this amount or the sober man? The sober man of course. So you see that $1,300,000,000 would be saved annually (in this government alone) by stopping the sale of intoxicating drinks. Besides all this we have about one-fourth of a million of people who die of drunkenness each year in this government. Now this would make a graveyard (each one three feet apart) 70 miles in length and 4 graves in breadth during the administration of one President. Again this nation must furnish material for this God dishonoring and soul destroying work. And what is this material? It is your boys. How many will it take? It will take at least one-half a million of your boy's for each president's administration to fill the demand. Now brethren, are you willing to furnish these boys? No you say. Well are you willing to furnish your neighbor's boys? No you say. Well, are you willing to aid in furnishing any boy of this State or nation? Let us all say no; then what must we do as preachers? We must lay the facts before the people. Our churches must be strict in discipline in this important matter, as members we must stay away from such places and forever quit setting the example. Let us all as a church stand together as tetotelers on the drink question. In conclusion let us insist that our churches apply to Bro. Crumpton for literature and read and distribute all over this country and educate our people in full on this subject.

Yours respectfully,

J. R. SARTAIN, Chairman.

Adjourned till Monday morning 8 a. m. Sunday night a collection was taken for the Orphan's home; amounting $9.50.

MONDAY—MORNING SESSION.

At 8 a. m., met pursuant to adjournment. After devotional exercises was called to order. On motion, J. W. Bagwell was received

from New Hope without letter. Then received letter but no delegates from Berry; from Liberty Grove, D. S. Smith and J. M. Sides; from Coal City, T. B. Randolph.

On motion speeches on all subjects was limited to ten minutes, except Bro. J. A. Glenn on missions. Then the discussion on missions was taken up and concluded and the reports adopted.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Brethren, I find it impossible in one short report to give even a satisfactory summary of the great work being done by our State Board of Missions. The headquarters of this Board is located at Montgomery, Ala., having for its corresponding secretary, Bro. W. B. Crumpton, who is using all the means within his control to evangelize the State and bring it to Christ

Including colporter missionaries, there were 45 men employed up to the meeting of the convention in July. 4 churches constituted, 333 persons baptized, 318 received by letter, 20 restored, 27 Sunday Schools organized, 9 church buildings commenced, 3 church buildings finished, raised $680.98 for State Missions, $132.10 for ministerial education; $93.52 for Orphan's Home. These figures show only what the Board has done for the State from one convention to the next, about eight months. This Board does a great deal for Home and Foreign Missions, also for our colportage work.

Feeling the great need of redoubling our energies and increasing our contributions for the cause of Christ. Therefore, be it resolved,

1st. That we agree to try to raise through the churches $475, the amount suggested by the State Board of Missions.

2nd. That a committee of seven be appointed to apportion this amount among the churches.

3rd. That this is in no sense a tax or even an assessment, but a suggestion which the churches are free to adopt, or not, just as they like.

4th. That we recommend to the churches the envelope plan as the simpliest and easiest plan of raising mission money. These envelopes may be had free by writing to Bro. W. B. Crumpton, Montgomery, Ala. Your committee urge the importance of continuing mission work in our association, until all the waste places shall be built up, and the wilderness shall blossom like the rose.

R. M. Hunter, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Some of our brethren seem to grumble at our work. Once upon a time, as the story goes, and old man said to his boys while dying, be public-spirited boys, always be charitable, be always foremost in every enterprise, but don't let it cost you anything. Our plans may need frequent adjustment, no one claims for them entire perfection. Kindly criticism of our methods are helpful and invited. If these good brethren will step forward and tell us wherein our present plans are defective and how to remedy them, they will prove benefactors to the human race. What have our Boards done? Our peerless Home Mission Board did a great work last year. She reported nearly 400 missionaries sustained, occupying over 1000 stations, preaching 30,000 sermons and baptizing over 4,000 persons. If this last year's work was an average for the last ten years, and it is substantially so, then the work of our home Board for the last ten years would show missionaries employed 3,810, stations supplied 12,290, sermons preached 340,240, baptisms 44,700, total additions 85,090, churches constituted 1,330, houses built 670, tracts distributed 3,907,500, religious visits 521,970. This Board has also furnished large sums of money yearly to many of our State Boards to aid in their work. This is the work that some Baptist grumble at. What is the matter with these brethren that they murmur at this? This work has been done among manifold discouragements, the scarcity of money, lack of co-operation, and above all, the opposition of brethren who would not work but grumble at those who did. If these good brethren would tell, if there is a lack of judgment in the Boards, a lack of sense in the secretaries, a lack of practicability in our methods, a lack of moral honesty in our purpose, a want of orthodoxy in our doctrine, or a lack of scripturalness in

our general management, let some Missionary Baptist Church make the charges and prove them, and arraign the whole business before the Baptists of Alabama, and set these things aright. But these things do not exist only in the minds of some brethren who seem to have been predestined to be on the wrong side of every question, and who seem to make their calling and election sure, by fighting everything and everybody that do not agree with them. The writer speaks for himself alone and gives due and timely notice to all men by these presents, that he is fixed in the determinaiion to live and die a Missionary Baptist. Let the brethren rage and the people imagine a vain thing, and let the anti-missionaries and omissionaries and all whomsoever will set themselves to oppose progress, yet there are many who are fully set in themselves to carry forward the banner of our Lord in this grand missionary work, until every city, town, village, neighborhood and home, the glorious gospel of the blessed God is carried or until Christ shall come again. May the blessing of God attend us in this grand move is the prayer of

JAMES HILTON, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Dear Brethren: Foreign missions is a subject that should be carefully and prayerfully studied. Probably there is no object fostered by our denomination about which there is more prejudice and ignorance, and it is a painful fact that many people rejoice in their ignorance of the subject, and are too much prejudiced to inform themselves. They willingly are ignorant of God's great plan of giving the gospel to the world, and subjecting the kingdoms of earth to the reign of our Lord and his Christ. Race and national prejudice play a large part in the coldness and indifference on the side of those who have the gospel. But notwithstanding, men are living in wilful disobedience to the high command of Almighty God, to give this gospel to all the world, yet he who openeth and no man shutteth, is opening the windows of heaven and the doors of earth and filling the uplifted hands of christian men and women who are carrying the bread of life to the dying millions of earth. The prospect brightens and the day star glows in the eastern sky. That Christian is blind and cannot see afar off who cannot read the signs of the times, which even the wayfaring man, who, though he were a fool may read as he runs. Such a man though he were upon the housetop, or the mountain top, and the four-cornered sheet was let down from heaven every noon-day during his natural lifetime and he heard the voice, after the blessing was pronounced, "Rise Peter, slay and eat," yet he never would go to the call of the gentle Cornelius.

"Go preach my gospel to every creature" still rings like a bugle call along the ranks of God's soldiery. Soldiers of Christ, will ye obey his orders, or will ye not?" "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not whatsoever I command you?" Our Foreign Mission Board is sending men, and have men in China India, Africa, Japan, Italy, Brazil, Mexico and other fields. Brethren these are men like we are, and like our Savior during his incarnation, who eat, drank and wore clothes. These missionaries must be fed. Brethren of the North River Association, will you feed them? Last year this whole Association gave but $6.60 to this cause and Jasper Church gave $4.00 of that small amount. Will God hold us guiltless for such an awful neglect of duty? Your committee recommend that we try to raise $83.33, the amount asked by the State Board of Missions.

W. T. RUTLEDGE, Chairman.

A committee on apportionment was appointed to-wit:

G. D. O'Rear, J. R. Sartain, H. G. Amesron, J. B. Crownover, Wm. McDuff, W. F. Sides and J. T. Morris.

Called for report on education. Report not being ready and all the committee absent, L. A. Morris was appointed to prepare a report.

Report on ministerial education read and after being discussed by several brethren was adopted.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Brethren, there is no one object fostered by our great denomination that should engage our prayerful consideration more than this. The time has been when educated ministers were not in demand as they are now. Brother, the condition of the people is greatly changed. Schools, private and public, common schools, academies, colleges, universities—schools of specialties located in the center of busy marts where eager thousands rush to fortune and to fame or failure—schools of all grades are crowning the hill tops and adorning the valleys. Much of the school teacher's work is hidden. But like the seed sown in the darkness of the earth it wil come forth to wave a golden forest of grain ripening into eternity. As the rising generation comes from these institutions of learning and realize that they are far advance of the men who minister in holy things, is it not very probable they will depreciate the pulpit? The young people are being taught to speak correctly, and to think for themselves. And if their pastors are not educated the young will go to hear men of other denominations who are educated. An uneducated minister cannot hope to hold an educated congregation. And there is the press which is a mighty factor in controlling the thoughts of the people. Most of our religious papers are edited by preachers. Brother, the old are dying out and the ranks must be kept filled. There never was a time since the creation of the world when the people were louder in their cries for men who are capable of instructing them. We have nothing to say against the old men who served their day and have gone home to rest. They lived in a day when schools were few and education was scarce. But the young preachers of this day who are uneducated will soon find to their great mortification that they are not in demand as pastors, and vacant pulpits will remain vacant until the right man is found. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." During the last session of Howard College there were 16 young men helped by the Board, 2 in high schools and 5 in the Theological Seminary, at Louisville, Ky.,—19 in all helped by the Board. The Board does not promise to educate men and make preachers of them, but worthy, poor men, called of God, and recommended by their local churches or associations, upon being examined by the Board of Ministerial Education, located at Montgomery, Ala., may receive help to attend college. Your committee heartily recommend the work of the Board and beg the Association to give it its co-operation in raising funds for ministerial education. Also, if there is a worthy young preacher in this Association desiring aid to educate himself that he be adopted as a beneficiary of the North River Association.

R. M. Hunter, Chairman.

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.—Read and adopted.

We your committee on Religious Literature report as follows: We recommend the Southern Baptist Series as a Sunday School literature. We further recommend as Religious papers the Alabama Baptist, published at Montgomery, Alabama; the Foreign Mission Journal, published at Richmond, Va., by R. J. Willingham; the Home Field, published at Atlanta, Ga., by Q. T. Ficknor, also religious books, etc. All these things can be had through J. B. Collier, Montgomery, Ala., and we urge upon our people the great importance of placing religious literature from Baptist writers in their families.

Respectfully submitted, W. G. Davis, Chairman.

REPORT ON ORPHAN'S HOME.—Adopted.

Your committee on Orphan's Home beg leave to submit the following report:—The Orphanage was temporarily located at Evergreen, Ala., and opened March 8th, 1893, with three inmates and since has taken in thirty-three children and given out four, leaving at present thirty-two inmates, three of whom are from our Association. Last November our Convention purchased a permanent Home and agreed to pay five thousand dollars in three equal payments with interest on the two deferred payments, the cash payment having been made promptly. We are informed by the Financial Secretary, our beloved brother, John W. Stewart, that they will need next December $2,000 to make

the second payment on the Home with some current expenses that is accruing. Your committee urge that every church in the Association try to pay something to help this grand move on, that we may have a home for the Fatherless and Motherless, a Home that is kept by Godly men and women where the boys are taught to work in the field, the girls are taught to do all kinds of house work, for we know not when we will be called upon to leave the walks of men.

Respectfully submitted, G. D O'Rear, Chairman..

REPORT ON PRAYER AND PRAYER-MEETING.—Read and adopted.

Your committee on Prayer and Prayermeeting present the following as our report: "And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray and not to faint." Luke 23: 1-8. Let us consider its designed application—"that men ought to pray," etc. To pray—what is it? To tell God our wants and seek his blessing—to pour out our hearts—to make known our requests. Let us look at some reasons why men ought to pray. Prayer is the language of nature, hence all creatures have their respective mode of expressing their wants. The young lions, the birds of the air and the crying of the child. Look at man in eminent peril; look at man in deep suffering, and how natural is prayer. Prayer is recommended by sound reason. Is it not reasonable that a child should depend and seek the aid of the parent? That weakness should lean on strength, ignorance look up to wisdom, penury crave the aid of affluence. How dependent is man! how weak! how ignorant! Prayer is an essential part of all religions. The Mohammedan has his seven daily prayers, the pagan idolator prays, the savage in peril prays, the American Indian addresses the Great Spirit. Shall not the christian pray? Prayer is constantly urged in the volume of revelation. It is the soul of devotion and devotion is the very atmosphere of true piety. Examples are placed before us. Abraham, Elijah, David, the Prophets, the Apostles, etc. And the greater than all, the Son of God our Divine example. The spirit of prayer, the success of prayer, the various kinds of prayer, are all introduced to us here. Our necessities should induce us to pray. What do we not need. We need constant mercy, daily grace and ceaseless help. We are weaker than a bruised reed. Our enemies are multitudinious and they are stronger than we, hence the necessity for prayer. What can we do? What must we do? Appeal to God, commit all into his hands. If we do this He will deliver us, justify us, and punish our unrepenting enemies. "Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you." With encouragements before us, we highly recommend prayer. We recommend secret individual prayer, also family prayer, and as God places a premium on union in prayer, we would urge each church to organize and keep up a well regulated prayer meeting.

Respectfully submitted, J. W. Rogers, Chairman.

On motion adjourned for one hour.

EVENING SESSION.

At 1:30 p. m. met, after devotional exercises by J. R. Sartain was called to order.

REPORT OF AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS.

We your committee report as follows: We report two aged and infirm ministers, to-wit: L. B. Harbin and S. A. Smith, whom we deem worthy of help and support, we therefore suggest that a collection be now taken up for their aid.

R. A. Baker, Chairman.

On motion the committee on aged and infirm ministers are authorized to receive and pay out any money for this purpose. Then a collection was taken for Bro. Harbin. amounting to $18.68.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Education is development. Its necessity needs no argument. But the relation that this Association sustains to education is of a very peculiar nature. We claim to be the light of the world. Light is in a broad sense a synonym of knowledge, as light advances darkness recedes, as knowledge increases darkness and the power of darkness disappears. So as we claim to be the light of

the world we are expected to illuminate those with whom we are associated. An early acquaintance with the Bible, (the source of all light and the base of all refinement,) is the great desideratum of the day. The healthiest condition of any organized body obtains, when the laws governing such body, are conformed to. The laws governing every human being are the laws of God, both as to physical, mental and moral development. We know people who are rather poor scholars, even in English, who are really more capable of enlightening their associates than are some of great pretentions. Our institutions should be fostered by our people. We cannot afford to sacrifice hallowed influences for imaginary, or even real advantages in other lines. And in our opinion if there is any one subject on which the Association is morally bound to speak in unmistakable terms, it is our obligation to give our undivided support, when practicable, to our own institutions of learning. We cannot exaggerate this obligation. Respectfully submitted,

L. A. Morris, Chairman.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association that the time has come when the Baptists of Alabama should wipe out forever the shame of the widespread neglect of the old and infirm ministers who have worn themselves out in the service of Christ and the churches.

2nd. That we affectionately and earnestly urge the the co-operation of all the Associations in an immediate effort to secure the incorporation of a Board to be under the control of the Baptist State Convention of Alabama, and whose business it shall be to collect funds from every church and every member of every church in the State, and distribute the same for the benefit of old or afflicted Baptist ministers within our State and the families of deceased ministers. J. R. LLOYD.

REPORT ON BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY.

The duty assigned me at your last session has been performed—the duty of collecting all available historical matter pertaining to this Association and forwarding the same to Eld. B. F. Riley, Athens, Ga. A number of minutes from 1839, though not an unbroken file, received from Sister David Manasco, was shipped, with one copy of Bro. David Andrew' History.

The new History of Alabama Baptist will soon be ready and on sale at Birmingham, Ala., published by Roberts & Son. Your committee recommend that every Baptist family, as early as convenient, purchase a copy of this book. Your committee is pleased to report that a rich Baptist, Samuel Colgate, has built in New York a fire proof house in which he is storing for the use of future generations all the Baptist history that he can collect. All expenses of shipping, etc., are at his charges. Your committee recommend that any valuable material of a historical nature, tracts, sermons, minutes, etc. be shipped to this philanthropic christian gentleman, who would glorify God in the preservation of the history of that peculiar people—"that sect that is everywhere spoken against," that people, whose history as Mosheim says, is "lost in the depths of antiquity," but whose history, your committee says, is found in the first churches of which we have any account in sacred writ, and shall be found in the last gospel church this world shall ever see.

R. M. Hunter.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Received for minutes	$ 26.55	
" " Associational purposes	9.95	
" " Home Missions	2.75	
" " Foreign Missions	2.60	
" " Orphan's Home	13.26	
" " Missions	32.51	
" " L. B. Harbin	5.25	
" collection to supplement minute fund	3.75	
Total receipts		$96.62

Paid Executive Committee for missions	$ 32.51
" J. W. Stewart for Orphan's Home	13.26
" L. B. Harbin	5.25
" Clerk bal. due for last year	7.75
" W. B. Crumpton for Foreign Missions	2.60
" W. B. Crumpton for Home Missions	2.75
" Clerk for services	10.00
" for printing mintues	18.75
" Paper and postage	.50
Total credits	$93.37
Balance on hand	3.25

Respectfully, J. S. Watts, Treasurer.

Appointed J. S. Watts Treasurer for ensuing year.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS AND REQUESTS.

We your committee on Documents and Requests, submit the following report: We have examined all the documents given us by the Association and find nothing claiming the attention of the Association except the querry from Mount Joy Church, and we consider this querry so indefinite as to place it beyond the jurisdiction of this body, and therefore it is in our judgment out of order.

Respectfully submitted.

L. A. Morris, Chairman.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We your committee on nominations report as follows: To preach the Introductory sermon, James Hilton, C. C. Collins, alternate. To preach Sunday at 11 a. m., R. M. Hunter, A. Kilgore, alternate. Delegates to the Baptist State Convention: G. D. O'Rear, R. M. Hunter, J. R. Sartain, W. B. Appling, R. A. Baker and J. H. McGuire. Alternates: S. Lacy, H. L. Watlington, S. W. Vice, J. T. Morris, L. A. Morris and J. S. Watts. Delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention: R. M. Hunter, James Hilton, alternate. Next session of the Association to be held at Samaria church, three miles east of Jasper.

Respectfully submitted, J. H. McGuire, Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your committee on finance, report as follows:

Received for State Missions	$ 17.19	
" Sunday collection	29.48	
" for Home Missions	.75	
" " Foreign Missions	1.00	
" " Minute Fund	28.20	
" " Associational Fund	12.60	— $89.22.

CREDITS.

Paid Treasurer	$ 42.55	
" Executive Committee	46.67	— $89.22

Respectfully submitted, G. D. O'Rear, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We your Executive Committee beg leave to report that we have collected and paid our missionary, to-wit: Bro. James Hilton, who was employed by the Association at its last session as follows:

CASH RECEIPTS.

Oct. 21, 1893.	To cash from fifth Sunday meeting	$ 3.08
Jan. 1, 1894.	" " " Jasper church	9.80
Sep. 11 "	" " " Samaria church	3.85
" 17 "	" " " Jasper church	17.08
" 24 "	" " " Finance committee	47.67
Total		$81.48.

CASH PAID OUT.

Nov. 13, 1893.	By cash James Hilton	$ 3.08	
Jan. 1, 1894.	" " " "	9.80	
	" " " "	68.60	— $81.48

We owe Bro. Hilton for last year as per Ex. Com. report...	33.52	
" " " " " this year's work.....	300.00	
Total.....	$330.52	
Paid Bro. Hilton.....	$ 81.48	
" on the field as per his report.....	133.96	— $215.44
Bal. due missionary.....	$118,08.	

J. F. Appling, Chairman.

On motion the Clerk was authorized to place the following list in the minutes:

List of churches and persons agreeing to raise the amounts annexed right-away for Bro Hilton:

Jasper.....	$ 20.00	New Hope.....	$ 3.00
Mt. Joy.....	10.00	Oregonia	3.00
A. Crocker.....	5.00	Pleasant Grove.....	10.00
Bethpage	5.00	Providence	5.00
Bethabara.....	5.00	Pleasant Field.....	5.00
Bethlehem will do what we can.		Samaria	5.00
Oakman.....	5.00	Townley.....	5.00
J. D. Pittman.....	5.00	Union Grove.....	2.00
Lebanon	5.00	L. B. Harbin, Paid.....	1.00
Mt. Zion, Paid.....	5.00	Parrish in corn.....	2.00
P. G. Kilgore.....	5.00		
New Prospect.....	2.50		
Mt. Carmel	5.00	Total.....	$118.50

REPORT OF JAMES HILTON, MISSIONARY.

No. sermons preached 185, No. prayers 253,exhortations delivered 157,churches constituted 1, prayer-meetings attended 34, Sunday schools organized 3, Sunday School addresses 34, Churches visited 27, families visited 315, miles traveled 1860, burials attended 2, visited Clear Creek Association, Deacons ordained 2, received by Baptism 18, received by letter 21, witnessed baptisms 31, received from Executive Committee $81.48, received from the churches $130.86, received from individuals $2.10, received from colored brethren $1.05. Having done the best my ability would allow. The field is too large for one man to fill with successs. In every neighborhood I have worked where I felt my labors was the most needed and where I could glorify God and save the most souls.

Respectfully submitted,

James Hilton, Missionary.

On motion the Association recommended Bro. James Hilton to the Executive Committee as a suitable man for a missionary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPORTIONMENT.

Your committee on apportionment request that the pastors and members of the different churches try to raise by beginning at once the amounts placed opposite the name of their churches for missionary purposes, ministerial education and the Orphan's Home:

	Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Orphan's Home.
Bethabara	$ 7 50	$ 2 00	$ 1 50
Bethlehem	10 00	2 50	2 00
Bethel	5 00	1 25	1 00
Berry Station	5 00	1 25	1 00
Oakman	25 00	6 25	5 00
Jasper	100 00	25 00	20 00
Carbon Hill	5 00	1 25	1 00
Lebanon	5 00	1 25	1 00
Liberty Grove	10 00	2 50	2 00
Liberty	10 00	2 50	2 00
Mt. Zion	10 00	2 50	2 00
Mt. Joy	10 00	2 50	2 00
Mt. Carmel	5 00	1 25	1 00
New Hope	10 00	2 50	2 00
New Prospect	10 00	2 50	2 00
Oregonia	10 00	2 50	2 00
Pleasant Grove	20 00	5 00	4 00
Providence	15 00	4 00	3 00
Pleasant Field	7 50	200	1 50
Samaria	15 00	4 00	3 00
Townley	10 00	2 50	2 00
Union	5 00	1 25	1 00
Union Grove	5 00	1 25	1 00
Zion	5 00	1 25	1 00
Parrish	5 00	1 25	1 00
Bethpage	5 00	1 25	1 00
Total	$330.00	$83.25	$66 00

And in order to facilitate the collection of these apportionments, your committee urge that both churches and Sunday Schools take a collection every Sunday they meet.

G. D. O'Rear, Chairman.

The Moderator announced standing committees, to-wit:

On Sunday Schools—J. H. McGuire, N. H. Harbin and J. G. Jones.
On Temperance—J. R. Sartain, H. G. Amerson and Wm. Patton.
On State Missions—Jas. Hilton, J. M. Williams and J. A. Dees.
On Home Missions—S. W. Vice, W. T. Rutledge and J. M. Sides.
On Foreign Missions—R. M. Hunter, R. L. Baker and J. J. Phifer.
On Denominational Education—S. Lacy, G. G. Bagwell and J. T. Morris.
On Religious Literature—L. A. Morris, R. A. Baker and B. F. Thomas.
On Prayer and Prayer-Meeting—J. W. Rogers, J. L. Leonard, A. Crocker.
On Aged and Infirm Ministers—A. Kilgore, J. A. Sumner, J. P. Mooney.
On Orphan's Home—H. B. Allen, L. H. Baker, John Stephenson.
Executive Committee—J. F. Appling, G. D. O'Rear, D. J. Files, D. H. Clifton, W. F. Sides.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On motion the committees on Educational and Ministerial Education was consolidated and named Denominational Education.

The following resolutions were read and adopted.

Resolved, That the fifth Sunday District Meeting be united into one Fifth Sunday meeting, and that it be held with the church with Providence, commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in December 1894, and that R. M. Hunter, W. B. Appling and G. D. O'Rear be appointed committee on program.

J. R. Sartain.

Resolved, That this Association recommend that the Deacons of each church see all the members of their respective churches who are farmers and heads of families and ascertain how much land each will cultivate for the Lord's cause and how much those who are not farmers will give, the same to be turned over to the officers of the church and distribution to be made by order of the church. J. R. Sartain.

On motion the Clerk was authorized to make an abridged report of the Sunday School Convention.

The Second Annual Session of the North River Baptist Sunday School Convention convened with Jasper church, Walker County, Ala., Friday, July 20th, 1894. Ten schools represented. The next session to be held with Providence church, 3 miles east of Oakman, Ala., commencing on Friday, before the fourth Sunday in July, 1895.

W. G. Davis, President.

C. C. Kelley, Clerk.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the good people of Oakman and vicinity for their hospitality during this Association. R. L. Baker.

On motion the Clerk was authorized to have as many minutes printed as he can with the minute fund and that he have the Associational fund for his services.

On motion the reading of minutes was dispensed with except calling roll and marking absentees.

On motion resolved that this Association tender thanks to its Moderator and Clerk for efficient services.

On motion it was ordered that no delegates name appear on the minute except those present when roll call.

After singing "God be with you" and taking parting hand, the Association adjourned to meet with Samaria church, 3 miles east of Jasper, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1895.

W. B. APPLING, Moderator.

J. S. Watts, Clerk.

STATISTICS OF THE NORTH RIVER ASSOCIATION, 1894.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERK.	CLERK P. O.	Increas by Baptism	Increas by Letter	Increas by Restored	Decre's by Letter	Decre's by Exclusion	Decre's by Death	Total Membership	Minute Fund	Associational Fund	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Pastor's Salary	Sunday Meetings	Other Expenses
Bethabara	A Kilgore	T N Harbin	Berry Sta			1	6			27	60		1 00			15 00	4	
Bethlehem	J B Ferguson	J W Popwell	Berry Sta	7	4	2	7	5		72	1 50		7 00		$3	23 75	2	
Bethel	A Kilgore	J E Kilgore	Oakman				1	2		33	75	50				10 00	3	
Berry Station	H B Allen	B F Freeman	Berry				8		2	12	50		1 20			20 00	1	
Bethpage	J W Rogers	S S Bowser	Jasper	3	7		3		1	27	50	25				12 00	4	
Carbon Hill	not represented																	
Coal City	E L Brown	J W Randolph	Jasper	9	3		2	1		27	75	25					2	4
Jasper	R M Hunter	S Lacy	Jasper	45	31		3		2	192	2 50	2 50	77 45			556 32	123	306 35
Lebanon	A Kilgore	W J Earnest	Patton	9	1	2	1	1		45	1 00	50					1	
[illegible]	[illegible]	J M Sides	Lucky	11	2		2			78	1 50		9 00			35 25	3	
Liberty	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]							[illegible]	[illegible]	50	10 0[illegible]			7[illegible] 00	1	
Mt. Zion	Wm Patten	N Thacker	Patton							[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]					
Mt. Joy	R A Baker	H G Amerson	Toledo		1		2			58	1 00		8 27					
Mt. Carmel	J W Rogers	J A Sumner	Cordova				4			50	30					40 90	1	
New Hope		A B Clements	Oregonia							58	75							
New Prospect	W T Rutledge	W M Sherer	Jasper	1	7	2	5	5		76	40		1 44			20 25	1	75 00
Oakman	R M Hunter	J S Watts	Oakman	1	7		1	2	1	61	1 55	1 00	9 91			92 45	1	119 43
Oregonia	J L Collins	W R Utley	Oregonia	29	11	14			2	86	1 50	50					4	
Pleasant Grove	J R Sartain	W T Sides	Oakman	1	2		12	4	5	186	2 00	1 00	13 70				2	
Providence	J R Sartain	W M Watts	Oakman	11	3	3	7		1	103	2 00	1 50	12 73				3	
Pleasant Field	J R Sartain	J T Grace	Oakman				5	1		40	65	45					1	
Parrish	A Kilgore	J H Robinson	Parrish		2		1			10	50	50	1 75					
Samaria	C C Collins	R M Rice	Jasper	20	2		4			92	1 50	1 50	14 04			60 00	4	
Salem	not represented																	
Townley	J R Sartain	A J Hilton	Townley	5	1		12	2		64	1 50	50	12 41				1	14 05
Union Grove	J T Jones	G. W Baker	Toledo	4			1	2	1	47	75						2	
Union		James Crocker	Jasper	6	14		1	1		27	1 00	30						
Zion	A White	Levin Busbee	Jug	1			3		1	45	1 00	35					1	
				165	109	24	95	27	17	1622	28 20	12 60	181 15		$4	904 62		544 83

Sunday Schools reported, 12; Prayer Meetings reported, 8.